

Not ministers only, but all Christian workers in the Brethren church, will find very helpful suggestions in the article by Brother Lichty on "Methods Used in the Ashland City Revival." As stated in the introduction of his article, Brother Lichty has written for the purpose of helping others in the work of saving souls, and if any of our people find the methods used here helpful they are welcome to make use of them.

In reply to a request to write on a special subject for the EVANGELIST, Brother Lyon writes: "It will be a pleasure to me to comply with your request, the Lord enabling me so to do, even tho it may require the burning of midnight oil. Never be afraid to ask for any help that you may feel I am qualified to give. 'Such as I have give I.' " That is the real Christian spirit and we publicly thank Brother Lyon for its manifestation in this way.

Last Sabbath brother H. M. Oberholtzer of the College preached at the Fair Haven church, both morning and evening. By special arrangements he is to continue these services every two weeks until April 1. With Brother Brown the Elder in charge, Brethren Beeghly and Mason to fill in the intermediate Sunday the people at that place will have preaching every Sabbath. That means plenty of preachers and plenty of preaching. Brother Brown writes that Brother Hazlett's meeting did them much good.

Sister Mary Brown, wife of brother P. J. Brown, is the Board's agent for the Fair Haven church. She has sent fifteen yearly subscriptions all of which begin with the first of the year, all paid up in cash, and this without any charges or commission above what was required to send the money. Evidently Sister Brown has the cause of the publishing interests and the church in general at heart, and she may be assured of the hearty appreciation of both the members of the Board and the Editor for the faithful services rendered.

Brother B. F. Flora writes that the Union Salem church was dedicated December 8. Rain fell in torrents tho it did not hinder the services. Brother J. C. Murry of the German Baptist church preached the sermon, and Brother Flora conducted the rest of the dedicatory services. There remained five hundred dollars unprovided for which amount was quickly raised. This is a union house, very pretty both inside and outside. Brother Flora began a series of meetings at that place in the new church December 30.

Brother Samuel Lichty, Falls City, Nebraska, informs us that the church at that place has paid to the Chicago Church Fund the sum of \$164 00. We think Brother Lichty is right when he says they are entitled to the banner. Of the EVANGELIST he says: "EVANGELIST is welcome late or early. I have been thinking of taking two copies. When it arrives, the women folks always claim it first, and I find it hard to wait till my turn comes to read it." Probably if the women of that home take the hint and hold on to the paper a little longer each week, Brother Lichty will subscribe for another copy.

## Literary Notes

### An Undiplomatic Diplomat

(Chalmers Roberts, in *The World's Work*.)

There is a story exemplary of American kindness of heart and absolute lack of all the fine nothings of etiquette which are the very breath of

courts and diplomatic life. The story concerns a former American minister to St. Petersburg at one of the elaborate and very formal receptions or levees which the Emperor and Empress give on New Year's Day. All the diplomats stand in line in their order of precedence and Their Majesties walk down the line to exchange greetings with each in turn. On this occasion the Empress, now the Dowager, was not present, having just given birth to one of the younger Princesses. It seems also that the good wife of the American minister was at home occupied with a similar domestic duty. The Emperor came down the line and asked after the health of each of the gentlemen present, at the same time exchanging the usual seasonable greetings.

So when he came to the American he did ask the usual question: "I hope you have good news from home?" Of course, he had, and our full-hearted representative could not keep it a secret. "Yes, thank Your Majesty, excellent news. It is a boy and weighs twelve pounds."

An article which will prove of the widest interest to all those engaged in teaching or who may be interested in education, is one in the January Cosmopolitan by Elisha Benjamin Andrews, ex President of Brown University, who for the first time, in a leading magazine, has had the courage to show the great evils resulting from the private contract school-book system—educational officials corrupted, school-books often the poorest selected, and the prices paid by the children themselves of the highest—an annual tax going up into the millions which could be very easily avoided if the proper organization were brought into this effort.

The January Country Life in America is a California number with superb pictures characteristic of this unique and beautiful magazine, and wholly devoted to the out-door world on the Pacific coast. The special covers show big trees of the Sierras, and, a magnificent frontispiece, the blooming orchards at the foot of snow-capped mountains. The leading article, L. H. Bailey, tells of the diversified beauties and peculiarities of the land that flowers in winter and sleeps in summer, where thunder storms are not, and where the sun shines everlastingly. Pioneer days are recalled by "The Heroes of the Firing Line," a poem by Joaquin Miller; the trend of wonderful development is the theme of "Country Life in California," by A. J. Wells; and "The Story of a Great California Estate," by Charles Howard Shinn, naturally follows. Thru-out, the unusual opportunities for illustrating California at its best have been well taken, but of particularly striking beauty are several series of photographs. Of these, "The Cypressess of Monterey" show a picturesque feature of the Southren coast; the Yucca palms and Gila monsters, the weird life in the Mojave desert; and the poppies and poppy-worts furnish the color that gives California its fame as a land of flowers. Then, in a practical way, a portion of the number is devoted to the making of homes and gardens, the culture and commercial handling of fruits, and to many aspects of the soil. Certainly "Country Life in America" grows better with every number, and proves the grip that life under the open skies has upon us Americans.

Commending editorially on the articles by Senator Beveridge, now appearing in *The Saturday Evening Post*, the December *Review of Reviews* says:

"Any American who wishes to understand what the Russians are doing in Manchuria, and to grasp

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the matter so firmly and understandingly that he can shut his eyes and see it all, must read a series of papers from the pen of Senator Beveridge, of Indiana, now appearing in *The Saturday Evening Post*, of Philadelphia. Mr. Beveridge's first article in this series appeared on November 16. This energetic and brilliant young statesman, who took his seat in the Senate two years ago with a remarkable knowledge of the Philippine situation based upon several months of travel and study on the ground, has now been spending the half year since Congress adjourned in revisiting the far East, going this time by way of Europe, and crossing Siberia and Manchuria under circumstances which gave him an intimate acquaintance with the newest aspects of the expansion movements of the Russian empire. Hardly any other man in public life has Mr. Beveridge's power of vivid statement."

Senator Beveridge's next article in this series, A Diplomatic Game for an Empire, is an inside chapter of international negotiations, and tell how Russia outwitted England, made an ally of France and took from Japan the fruits of her victory over China.

All stories of Poe's life of misfortune and misadventure are pitched in very much the same key of pity, except that some recounting his misfortunes do most accuse, and some do most excuse him. Poe's tragic tendency to antagonize people is described very searchingly in the January *Delineator* by Clara E. Laughlin in her series of stories of author's loves. The one chapter in Poe's turbulent story that is marked by perfect trust and love that never wavered, the idyl of his child wife, Virginia Clemm, is told with an exquisite touch. The illustrations are from rare portraits, that of Poe's wife being from the only known one taken during her life.